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Omaha World-Herald

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2017 • SUNRISE EDITION • REAL. FAIR. ACCURATE.

FIRST IN THE WORLD-HERALD

Local county looks to join immigration program

Sheriff says it will add efficiencies; opponents predict division and fear

By Paul Hammel
WORLD-HERALD BUREAU

LINCOLN — The Dakota County Sheriff's Office has applied to join President Donald Trump's crackdown on illegal immigration.

The office is one of 26 agencies nationwide seeking an agreement with the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement to deputize trained jailers to enforce immigration laws locally.

The application, a first for Nebraska, is part of a push by the Trump administration to toughen up immigration enforcement through what is called the 287(g) program, which was mostly dormant under President Barack Obama.

Dakota County Sheriff Chris Kleinberg says his application changes little and has "been blown out of proportion."

But advocates for immigrants in the northeast Nebraska county and across the state fear that the change will lead to division, reluctance to report crime to police and racial profiling, as has happened in other areas of the country.

"I'm a legal citizen, but I am concerned that if I get pulled over, just because of the way I look or because of my accent, I'll be asked my immigration status," said Ismael Valadez of South Sioux City, the president of Unity in Action, a nonprofit group that works with immigrants in that region.

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RYAN SODERLIN/THE WORLD-HERALD

FIRST IN THE WORLD-HERALD

'Once-in-a-century milestone'

New Creighton dentistry building will offer more space and amenities

By Rick Ruggles
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

A whirring in the huge building along Cuming Street sounded like a dentist's drill, which is fitting since the facility will house dozens of dentists and dental students late next summer.

The whirring now is the sound of construction. Creighton University is erecting an $84.5 million School of Dentistry building at 2109 Cuming St. The red brick and limestone facility will give the dental school more room, a fresh look and feel, and new technology. And it's expected to revolutionize the school.

"It's a once-in-a-century milestone for our dental program," said Dr. Mark Latta, dean of the Creighton dental school. "We've been trying to address our infrastructure needs since about 2003, 2004."

Including a faculty garage in the basement and mechanical-equipment floor on top, it will be six stories and 267,000 square feet.

The dental school has operated for 45 years out of a building tucked away at 2802 Webster Plaza.

Latta said Creighton considered renovation, but the cost of doing so, expanding the building and dealing with the asbestos was prohibitive.

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VIDEO ON OMAHA.COM
Take a peek inside the new building with Dr. Mark Latta.

The School of Dentistry is slated to move into the new building at 2109 Cuming St. in July 2018.

NU BUDGET

'Everything's on the table' as campuses brace for cuts

Administrators fear that more will be affected than predicted earlier this year

By Rick Ruggles
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Some academic programs in the University of Nebraska system are bound to be affected by budget-cutting discussions that are grinding away at the campuses.

Although it's too early to say which programs will be affected and how many employees might be cut, some administrators anticipate profound changes beyond those identified this fall by NU-wide budget response teams.

The NU system and its campuses seek to close a hole of well over $50 million resulting from increasing costs and decreasing state money.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the University of Nebraska at Kearney in particular are girding for bad news in coming months.

"I can tell you that everything's on the table," said Jon Watts, vice chancellor for business and finance at UNK. "I describe this as a historic reduction at our campus."

Watts said UNK is dealing with $2 million in across-the-board, one-

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Exposed in exhibition
Some Huskers shine in win over Division II Northwood, but many need work on shooting, rebounding. **Sports**

Urban and suburban
Real estate company is responding to a demand for apartments in both markets. **Money**

Omaha forecast

High: 50	**Low:** 29
Sunny	**Details:** 6B

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FBI DATABASE

Pentagon has known of crime reporting lapses for 20 years

Flaws persisted in system that failed to prevent Texas shooter from buying guns

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon has known for at least two decades about failures to give military criminal history information to the FBI, including the type of information the Air Force didn't report about the Texas church gunman who had assaulted his wife and stepson while an airman.

The Air Force lapse in the Devin P. Kelley case, which is now under review by the Pentagon's inspector general, made it possible for him to buy guns before his attack Sunday that killed 26 people at a church in Sutherland Springs, Texas. Authorities said Tuesday that the death toll included the unborn baby of one of the women killed.

An FBI database known as the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, which contains information for use in background checks on prospective gun buyers, had only one Pentagon entry for domestic violence convictions as of Dec. 31, 2016. Most federal agencies had zero entries in that category.

An FBI status report on that database noted, however, that this

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